WAIS Server Issues for USPTO

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Searching Issues
for the Patent Office

- **Solid Searching: Lexis, Dialog Style as well as natural language**
- **Fast enough for interactive work**
- **Large database and growing**
- **Text and Page Images**

System Issues
for the Patent Office

- Standards oriented
- Off the shelf (but customizable)
- Riding other's momentum

Future Issues for Patent Office

- **Multiple Languages**
- **Optical Character Recognition (OCR)**
- **External Data Sources**

WAIS Inc Position

- Working with Standards, Leading Standards
- Solid Search Engines
- Consulting, Contracting, and Customization
- Working with Publishers

Example WAIS Inc Customers

- **Libraries**
  - Library of Congress
  - Rice University

- **Publishers**
  - Encyclopedia Britannica

- **Distributed Corporations**
  - Perot Systems
  - Intel

- **Government**
  - EPA
  - Spooks
  - Eisenhower Clearinghouse

Searching Issues
for the Patent Office

- **Solid Searching: Lexis, Dialog Style as well as natural language**
  - Boolean, Fielded Search, Ranked Retrieval
  - Natural Language and Relevance Feedback

- **Fast enough for interactive work**
  - Works on Multiprocessors for high throughput
  - Earlier version on Massively Parallel Machine (CM5)

- **Large database and growing**
  - Works on Gigabytes already, and growing

- **Text and Page Images**
  - Co-developing with Adobe
  - Multimedia already working

System Issues
for the Patent Office

- **Standards oriented**
  - Pushed text application in Z39.50
  - Universal Resource Locators in IETF
  - Security systems being implemented
- **Off the shelf (but customizable)**
  - Standard servers available
  - Source code available for inhouse customization
  - Consulting and contract work offered
- **Riding other's momentum**
  - Not a USPTO-only solution

Future Issues for Patent Office

- **Multiple Languages**
  - WAIS Inc working with Japanese partner
  - Latin languages relatively easy to support
- **OCR**
  - Natural language technique resistent to corruption
- **External Data Sources**
  - Working with journal publishers
  - Working with book and newspaper publishers
  - Working with universities and libraries

Conclusion

- **WAIS is a Solid Choice for the USPTO**
- **WAIS Inc can help in products and services**